

Date: June 9, 2017

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager,

From: Michael A. DuRee, Fire Chief

Robert G. Luna, Chief of Police

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Fireworks Education and Enforcement Efforts

As reported during the June 6, 2017 City Council meeting, the Fire and Police Departments are proactively addressing fireworks education and enforcement in preparation for the Fourth of July holiday. As in previous years, the primary focus areas are public outreach and enforcement. Outreach and education efforts are designed to communicate the message to residents and visitors that all fireworks, including those marked "Safe and Sane," are illegal in the City.

The Fire Department will continue to coordinate public service announcements, press releases, and the distribution of educational materials in English, Spanish, Khmer, and Tagalog (see attached) communicating that all fireworks are dangerous and illegal in the City. This message is being communicated through a variety of media, including social media, the City's website, Nextdoor, electronic signage, and the posting of flyers, banners, and posters in highly-visible locations, including parks, libraries, and buses. Educational information is being distributed to Long Beach schools, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers and Lifeguards will distribute flyers to residents, businesses, and neighborhood associations in late June. Additionally, representatives from the Fire Department will speak at community events and block parties about the illegality and dangers of all fireworks, and "Fireworks are Illegal" magnets are now displayed on Fire Department apparatus.

The Special Events Office will continue to coordinate all block party requests. Block party organizers must sign a permit stating that they are aware of all regulations, which include: block parties must end at 7:00 p.m., all fireworks are illegal, and, block party participants will comply with all applicable City, County, State, and Federal laws. Block party organizers are further notified that failure to comply with all permit conditions may result in the revocation of the block party permit and any future permits, and could be subject to additional City fees.

In previous years, the Communications Center received hundreds of fireworks-related calls on the nights of July 1 through July 5. Due to the nature of the complaints, Fire and Police patrols were either unable to locate the vast majority of incidents, or the suspect fled the scene prior to their arrival. Last year, the enhanced Fire and Police patrols handled over 80 fireworks-related incidents, issued 7 citations and 12 warnings, and seized over 600

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pounds of illegal fireworks. Additionally, the Fire Department responded to five fires and one serious injury that were all directly related to fireworks.

This year, to respond to reports of illegal fireworks on the nights of July 1 through July 5, the Fire Department will deploy two additional patrol vehicles, each staffed with two Arson Investigators, to work in conjunction with the Police Department's proactive patrols. Patrols will continue to target areas of the City known for historic use of fireworks and respond to reports of illegal fireworks activity citywide. Anyone cited or arrested for fireworks violations may be faced with a \$1,000 fine, sentenced to jail for up to six months, or both. The fines and penalties may increase depending on the fireworks' classification. Fireworks may be voluntarily disposed of at collection bins, which are located at all Fire and Police stations, and at Lifeguard Headquarters. In addition to the above measures, the Fire Department is working with the City Prosecutor to develop processes to help public safety staff to better identify users of illegal fireworks.

The above measures are being implemented to encourage the Long Beach community to have a safe Fourth of July holiday. Residents and visitors who wish to view fireworks are encouraged to attend professional fireworks displays at Alamitos Bay on July 3 and/or at the Queen Mary on July 4. Additionally, Virginia Country Club will hold a private, members only, professional fireworks display on July 4.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Chief DuRee at (562) 570-2505 or Chief Luna at (562) 570-7301.

MAD:RGL:DH

Q:/ADMINISTRATION/LETTERS AND MEMOS/TFF JOINT FD AND PD FIREWORKS OUTREACH AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS 2017

ATTACHMENT

CC:

CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
ROBERT LUNA, CHIEF OF POLICE
ANITRA DEMPSEY, INTERIM DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
REBECCA JIMENEZ, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ALL FIREWORKS AREILLEGAL IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH

Including "SAFE & SANE" Fireworks

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

Call Long Beach Police Dispatch at (562) 435-6711 or 9-1-1 if you observe dangerous or illegal activities.

Together we can enjoy a safe holiday!





Anyone cited or arrested for fireworks violations may be faced with a \$1,000 fine, sentenced to jail for six months, or both.

AVISO OFICIAL

TODOS LOS FUEGOS ARTIFICIALES



Incluyendo los fuegos artificiales "SEGUROS Y SANOS"

iSI VE ALGO, DIGA ALGO!

Llame al operador telefónico del Departamento de Policía de Long Beach al (562) 435-6711 o al 9-1-1 si observa actividades peligrosas o ilegales.

Juntos, podemos disfrutar un día seguro.



OPISYAL NA ABISO

LAHAT NG PAPUTOK AY ILEGAL SALUNGSOD NG LONG BEACH

Kabilang ang mga "LIGTAS at MATITINONG" Paputok

KUNG MAY NAKITA KA, SABIHIN MO!

Tumawag sa Himpilan ng Pulisya ng Long Beach sa (562) 435-6711 o sa 9-1-1 kung makakikita ka ng mga mapanganib o ilegal na gawain.



Maaari nating sama-samang ipagdiwang ang isang ligtas na holiday!

Code ng Munisipyo Seksyon 18.48.010

Sinumang matukoy o maaresto dahil sa mga paglabag sa paggamit ng paputok ay maaaring humarap sa \$1,000 na multa, masentensiyahang makulong nang anim na buwan, o pareho



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នៅក្នុងទីក្រុង ទង្រើបិច

រួមទាំងកាំជ្រួច "សុវត្ថិភាព"

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ផ្នែក 18.48.010 នៃក្រមច្បាប់សាលាក្រុង